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Subject: News: Owners of Bridgeton Landfill pay out \$6.8 million to nearby residents in lawsuit about the stench

FYI

http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/owners-of-bridgeton-landfill-pay-out-million-to-nearby-residents/article_9d74a35a-4524-5a86-834c-db5e698271e3.html

Owners of Bridgeton Landfill pay out \$6.8 million to nearby residents in lawsuit about the stench

Residents who live in the 400 homes closest to the smoldering Bridgeton Landfill will be compensated thousands of dollars for enduring the foul odors from the site in an agreement reached today in a lawsuit against the landfill's owners.

Bridgeton Landfill LLC, a subsidiary of Republic Services agreed to a preliminary settlement of more than \$6.8 million in a 2013 federal class action lawsuit filed by six Bridgeton residents on behalf of their neighbors. The residents' attorneys will receive one-fourth of the payout, leaving an average award of \$12,750 per household.

"We are the first to acknowledge that the odors have been a source of considerable public concern and frustration," said Russ Knocke, a Republic Services spokesman, in a statement. "We share that frustration and hope that the resolution of this suit will bring peace of mind to our community. We also sincerely appreciate the community's patience as we continue to do everything within our power to rectify a complex and unfortunate situation that we did not create."

A hearing is scheduled for Aug. 1 for final approval of the settlement.